

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

To Join Or Not
To Join?

THE troubles in Jordan, which though quiescent now can be expected to become manifest again in the New Year, show in a melancholy way how the internal dissensions in the Middle East expose the whole region to danger, and may, if not overcome, frustrate efforts to build up security.

The countries which have formed the Baghdad alliance—a defensive alliance against a very evident threat—invited Jordan to become a member. It had been apparent they would do so ever since their recent Baghdad conference. Jordan, in view of its national interest, strategic position, and relations with Iraq, seemed especially likely to be attracted by the ideas which led to this new alliance.

What has happened is that forces interested in maintaining the present divisions and instability have seized the opportunity to set in motion operations which exclude a thick mist of suspicion, misconception, and misrepresentation.

THE master card which the enemies of the pact operated was Israel. They have spread with great care the rumour that Jordan is being asked to moderate its attitude towards Israel. The rumour was completely false because the issue of Israel was irrelevant to the negotiations. Nevertheless its effect upon the populace was sufficient to create riots and anti-government demonstrations.

Public opinion in Jordan has still to be persuaded that if she joins the Baghdad alliance, it will in no way compromise her position. On the contrary, the country would become militarily stronger and would possess powerful and reliable allies, Iraq, which Israel considers one of its most inveterate antagonists, was one of the founder members of the alliance. It would certainly not allow the alliance to be used for purpose of which Jordan could disapprove.

If the people of Jordan at next month's parliamentary elections reject the alliance, it will sadden those who are particularly in the alliance's economic potentialities. At the Baghdad conference it was made clear that the pact was to be as much an economic association between governments as a political or military one.

THE aim is to start in the Middle East an economic effort comparable with that of the Colombo Plan in South Asia. The form would be different, since the Middle East, unlike South Asia, is not short of capital. It has thus great natural advantages. It is the marriage of the huge natural resources of the Middle East to the most up-to-date technical skill of the West which the Baghdad alliance is intended to bring about.

Even more than most other countries of the region, Jordan might benefit from the economic act. It has a very large territory, and a rather small population, it can expect rapidly to achieve economic development. But the country needs experts; it needs to bring these in under a system by which its national interests and independence are fully protected. The Baghdad alliance offers the means.

Recent events, it is hoped, may prove to have been only a passing phase. They are an effort by the forces which thrive on division and confusion. The threat from the Communist powers is very plain. Nevertheless, the spirit of negation need not always prevail. The people of Jordan will have their opportunity of making an enlightened decision in the New Year.

POLICE
LAUNCH
INQUIRY

London, Dec. 28.

Police today began an investigation into a "deliberate" sabotage attempt against the nationalised British Railways, plagued by a month-long series of crashes and accidents in which 24 people have been killed and more than 180 injured.

Saboteurs were blamed for cutting the main Bradford to Skipton line at (Charleston, Yorkshire yesterday.

A trackwalker found a heap of ballast sand on the mainline at one point and lengths of unbolted rails at another. The bolts were missing and police said "it was a deliberate attempt to sabotage the line."

Discovery of the break averted what could have been another tragic accident. Police said the person or persons responsible "must have had considerable technical knowledge."

TWO NEW INCIDENTS

Two other incidents were reported on the railway yesterday.

An express train trying to labour uphill through a dark tunnel slid backward yesterday while the smoke-blinded engine thought it was moving forward. It piled up on the hillside and four coaches were derailed.

"I thought I was moving forward," said engineer Herbert Hayes. "I was as surprised as the passengers when I came into daylight and saw the train was sliding backwards."

Wheels of the overloaded engine lost their grip on the wet underground rails and the whole train slid downhill in a rocking ride that ended when four rear cars jumped the tracks.

All aboard escaped serious injury but the derailed coaches were badly crushed.

"If I hadn't braked hard it would have been a real pile-up," said the engineer.

Railway officials reported that several passengers were "shaken."

A London-bound train was delayed three hours when a schedule mix-up left a signal box unmanned at Southport, Lancashire.

REPORT TO EDEN

The Minister for Transport Mr Harold Watkinson called for a full-scale inquiry into the operations of the railways on Saturday after three train crashes within 36 hours.

Later he reported personally to Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden.

One person was killed and 30 injured in the three crashes, all of which occurred when stationary trains were rammed in the rear by moving trains.

Earlier this month, crashes and accidents took the lives of 23 people.—United Press.

'Spies' To Be
Executed

Paris, Dec. 28.

Two members of an alleged British spy ring in Poland were yesterday sentenced to death by a Warsaw military tribunal, the Polish PAP agency announced tonight.

Five other members of the ring, including three women, received long prison sentences. The "British spies" were said to have passed to Britain a quantity of information relating to Polish national defence. They had worked under the leadership of a man whose name was given as Jan Miller, and who was described as head of the British espionage service in Poland.

This was the second trial of "British spies" in the last five days. Seven other trials of "spies and terrorists" resulted in heavy penalties during September and October.—France-Press.



After The
Crash
At Luton

Telescoped and shattered coaches after the rail crash at Luton station, Bedfordshire last Thursday.

There was one fatality and 50 people were injured after the London to Derby express ran into the back of the London to Leicester train which was standing in Luton station.

Emergency services were mobilised for rescue work. Several passengers were trapped in the Leicester train.—Reuterphoto.

British Ship
Batters Way
Through Ice

London, Dec. 28.

The British Antarctic expedition ship Theron battered its way through ice to within 1,000 miles of its destination on the frozen continent today.

Expedition headquarters said it received a cable from the Theron saying it had covered 9,000 miles of the 10,000-mile journey. It began here six weeks ago.

The cable said the Theron was making "rapid progress" through ice as it neared Antarctica.

Sir Edmund Hillary, conqueror of Mount Everest, is aboard the vessel as an observer. He is to lead a New Zealand expedition to link up with a British expedition across the Antarctic in 1958. He boarded Theron at Montevideo.—United Press.

Bomb Unearthed

Bologna, Dec. 28.

All nearby buildings including an army hospital were evacuated today while bomb disposal experts dismantled a 550 lbs bomb which had lain unsuspected on the bed of a canal here since the war.—Router.

CHINA FREES BRITISH MOUNTAINEERS

Paris, Dec. 28.

The Communist New China News Agency tonight announced the release of two British mountaineers and a Nepalese, arrested by the Chinese Communists for crossing the border from Nepal into Tibet.

The three climbers were members of a Welsh expedition to the Himalayas.

The New China News Agency announcement from Lhasa said: "Two British and a Nepalese, who had been detained by Chinese border defence units for illegal entry into the Chinese territory at a point near Tingkelipu mountain pass were released and sent out of China on December 11, after admitting their fault."

Krushchev Calls, Niazov Goes
TOP COMMUNIST
IS 'LIBERATED'

Moscow, Dec. 28.

A change in the top Communist leadership of the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan was made soon after a visit to the Republic by Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin and Soviet Communist Party chief, Nikita Krushchev, it was revealed today.

Amino Niazov, First Secretary of the Uzbekistan Central Committee since 1950, has been "liberated from his functions." He is replaced by Nuriddin Mukhomedinov, until now Premier of the Republic. The new Premier is Zahir Zomolov, previously third secretary of the party.

The reshuffle in Uzbekistan, which borders on Afghanistan, was revealed in the December 23 issue of the "Pravda Vostoka", received in Moscow today. The shake-up took effect on December 22, shortly after Bulganin and Krushchev passed through Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on their way back to Moscow after their Asian tour.

COMPLETE SURPRISE

No explanation for the change was given. The announcement came as a complete surprise as there had been no indication of an impending change. On December 20, the "Pravda Vostoka" was still giving prominence to Niazov, as First Secretary of the Party, in a report on an agricultural conference attended by Bulganin and Krushchev.

There is no confirmation that Niazov is actually in disgrace. He was not criticised by Krushchev in his speech at the Tashkent conference. On the other hand, the usual reassuring formula of being "called to other duties" was not used.

Reliable sources said the Russians already have put out "cautious feelers about renewed relations" and officials here have indicated privately that they favour the idea.

A scheduled auction of the property of the Soviet Embassy here was postponed indefinitely without explanation some time ago.

WOOL TRADE PROSPECTS
Australian officials were said to be tempted by the prospect of a renewal of the wool trade with Russia, which was broken off at the time of the diplomatic rupture.

Soviet participation in the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne was said to be another factor influencing the probable resumption of relations.

The diplomatic break occurred after Petrov, a secret police Colonel who was serving as Russia's chief spy in Australia, "chose freedom" here two years ago and disclosed the workings of the Soviet spy apparatus to Australian security officials.—United Press.

Death Of Malaria Expert
—London, Dec. 28.
Sir Malcolm Watson, a great malaria expert, died at his home in Surrey today, aged 82. Known as the man who supervised the work of reclaiming Singapore and most of the Malayan plantation areas from malaria, Sir Malcolm first became interested in the malaria problem in 1903.—France-Press.

Russians May
Return
To Canberra

Canberra, Dec. 28.

Diplomatic relations between Russia and Australia, broken off after Vladimir Petrov revealed the extent of Soviet espionage in Australia, will probably be renewed in June, it was reported today.

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★ LONDON—And The Hydrogen Bomb
BRITAIN TO SCRAP
ATOM-PROOF
FORTRESS PROJECT

By CHAPMAN PINCHER

London, Dec. 28.

An underground network of "atom-proof" fortresses and tunnels built below London to house the Cabinet and key people in war, has been written off as useless.

The shelters, which cost millions, couldn't withstand the blast of the latest type of Russian H-bomb exploding on or near the ground.

When they were planned five years ago the experts could not foresee weapons with power much greater than half a million tons of TNT—25 times the power of the Hiroshima bomb.

The latest Russian weapon has the power of several millions of tons of TNT and bombs with the force of 50 million tons are considered possible.

Home Office experts advised that the people responsible for directing the nation would have to be sent at least ten miles out of London in any emergency.

They are reconsidering a reduced role which the fortresses might be given in the event of attack.

The main fortresses, dug out below Whitehall, with the entrance near Downing Street, links with another tunnel fortress a short distance behind Westminster Abbey.

Tunnels for "vital communications" stretch out from fortresses under the Thames into Southwark, where there is a big underground civil defence headquarters.

The main fortresses are fitted with special air-conditioning machinery and have their own electric generating systems. They are equipped to enable hundreds of people to live below ground for many days.—London Express Service.

It gives top priority to selected aircraft and missiles that would be used to deliver counter atomic blows and to defend the United States from a nuclear assault.

The new policy was dictated by technical advances and shifting international, political and military power requiring "radical changes in our national strategy" and "a new approach" to industrial planning for a national emergency, a spokesman said.—Reuter.

Engine Fell Off In Mid Air

Rome, Dec. 28.

A New York bound American D.C. 7-B airliner with 48 people aboard, limped back to Ciampino airport tonight after one of its four engines had fallen off in mid-air and another had broken down.

The captain, A. D. Reedy, guided the airliner down to a perfect landing three hours after taking off for New York.

He reported that one of the engines had dropped off while the plane was flying over Lombardy in northern Italy on its way to Brussels. During his perilous flight back to Ciampino on two engines the captain kept the Italian air control constantly informed of his progress. He was given a hero's welcome after bringing the big plane safely down.

The aircraft, belonging to Pan American Airways, carried 42 passengers and a crew of six. An inquiry into the mishap was started immediately.—France-Press.

Princess Dies
Of Burns

Baghdad, Dec. 28.

Princess Jalilah, aunt of King Feisal of Iraq, died here today aged 28. She was the youngest daughter of the late King Ali of Hedjaz now part of Saudi Arabia and a sister of Crown Prince Abdurrahman, former regent of Iraq. Princess Jalilah died as a result of severe burns she received when lighting a kerosene stove.

The Government announced that there would be three days of national mourning starting tomorrow.—Reuter.

Warm Day In Paris

Paris, Dec. 28.

Parisians today enjoyed their warmest December day in 35 years. The mercury went up to 14.6 degrees Centigrade (58.3 Fahrenheit), a mark which equals the record for the date set on December 28, 1920.—France-Press.

Armistice Violations

Warning To
Egypt
And Israel

Jerusalem, Dec. 28.

Both Israel and Egypt are still violating the Israeli-Egyptian armistice agreement by maintaining forces in areas not permitted under the agreement, General E. L. M. Burns, chief Truce Supervisor, said in a communique issued tonight. General Burns said in the communique that Egypt had "not yet formulated its final position" regarding the proposals of Mr Dag Hammarskjold, United Nations Secretary-General, for the El Ajlaj demilitarised zone.

Egypt considered negotiations to be still open, the communique said.

CONDITIONS

General Burns issued the communique on his return from Gaza where he had been conferring with Lieutenant-Colonel Sala Gohar, Director of the Palestine Department of the Egyptian War Ministry.

The communique said that both Egypt and Israel had put forward conditions for the acceptance of the Hammarskjold proposals.

But yesterday an Israeli spokesman said Israel accepted unconditionally Mr Hammarskjold's plan.—Reuter.

NOT AMONG TOP TEN

Marilyn
Monroe
Surprise

Hollywood, Dec. 28.

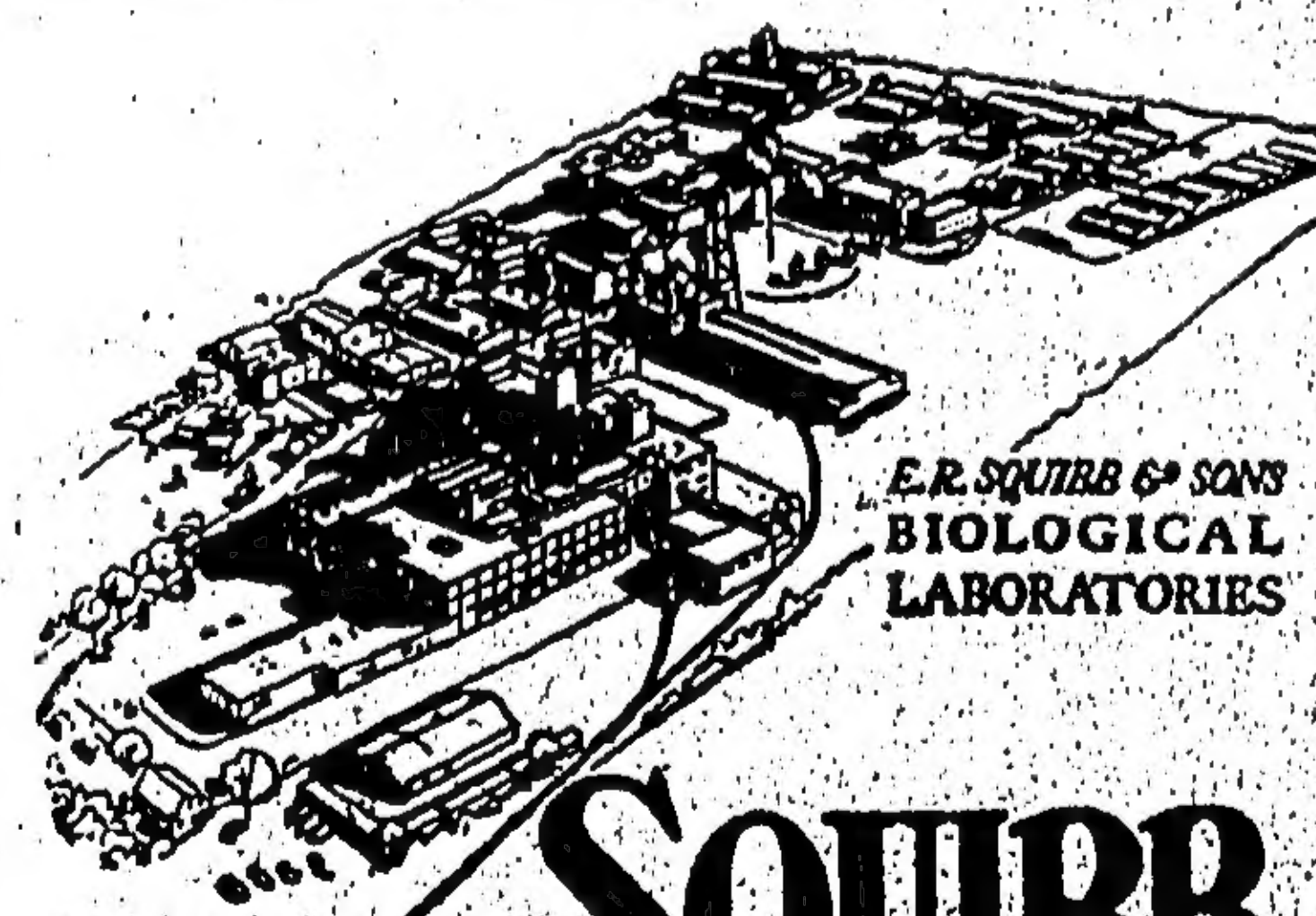
James Stewart headed the United States cinema box office list this year with Grace Kelly second and Marilyn Monroe a surprise absentee from the Top Ten, according to the Motion Picture Herald's survey published tonight.

John Wayne, last year's leading money-spinner took third place followed by William Holden, Gary Cooper, Marlon Brando, Martin and Lewis, Humphrey Bogart, Jane Hutton and Clark Gable.

Marilyn Monroe, fifth last year, had only one film released this year, "The Seven Year Itch".

Grace Kelly, winner of the academy award this year for the best actress, made her first appearance in the list.

In a separate survey of Canadian cinema box offices she won first place.—Reuter.



SQUIBB
PHARMACEUTICAL
PRODUCTS
ARE MADE HERE

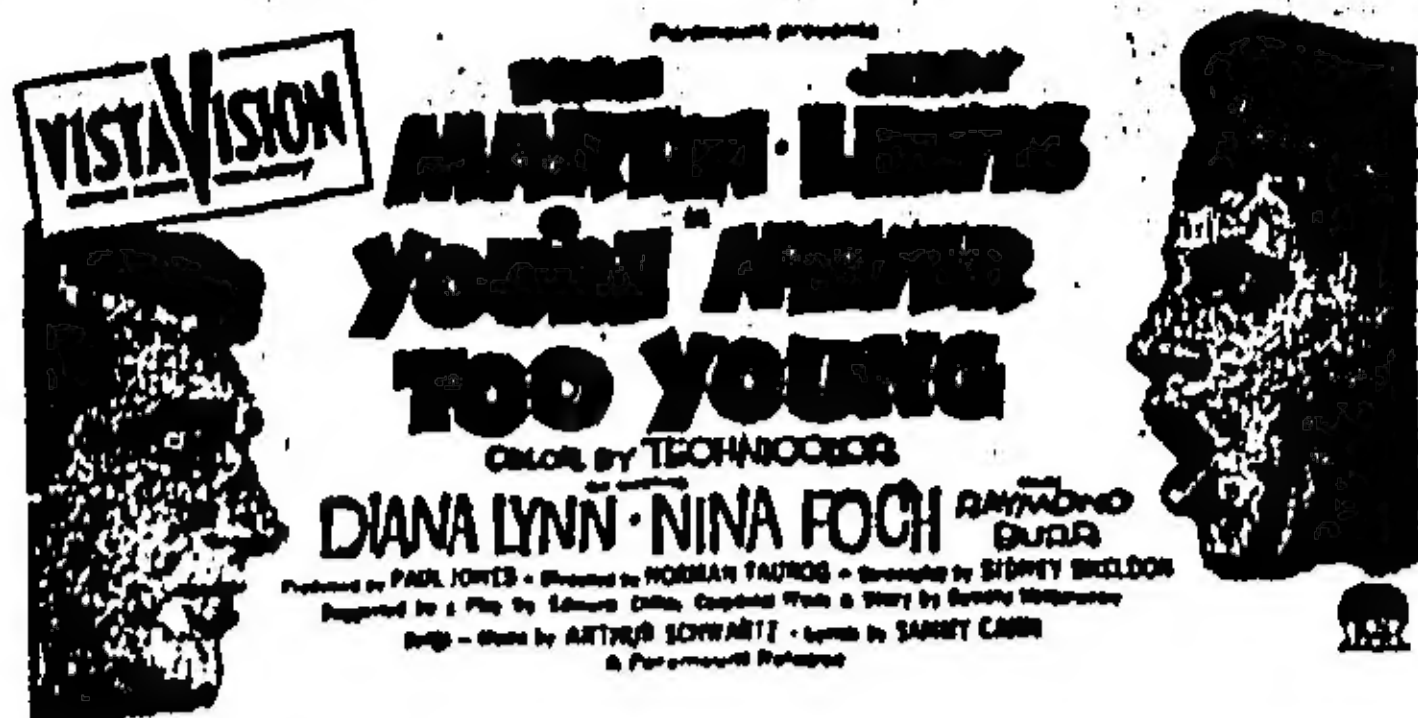


SHIRO

KING'S PRINCESS EMPIRE

AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 and 9.30 p.m. AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 and 9.30 p.m. AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 and 9.30 p.m.

— TO-DAY ONLY —



KING'S PRINCESS

COMMENCING TO-MORROW



EMPIRE

COMMENCING ON SATURDAY



ROXY & BROADWAY

— SHOWING TO-DAY —
Owing to length of picture please note change of times:
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

HERE COMES THE SAGA OF THE TALL MEN
AND THE WOMEN WHO LOVED THEM!

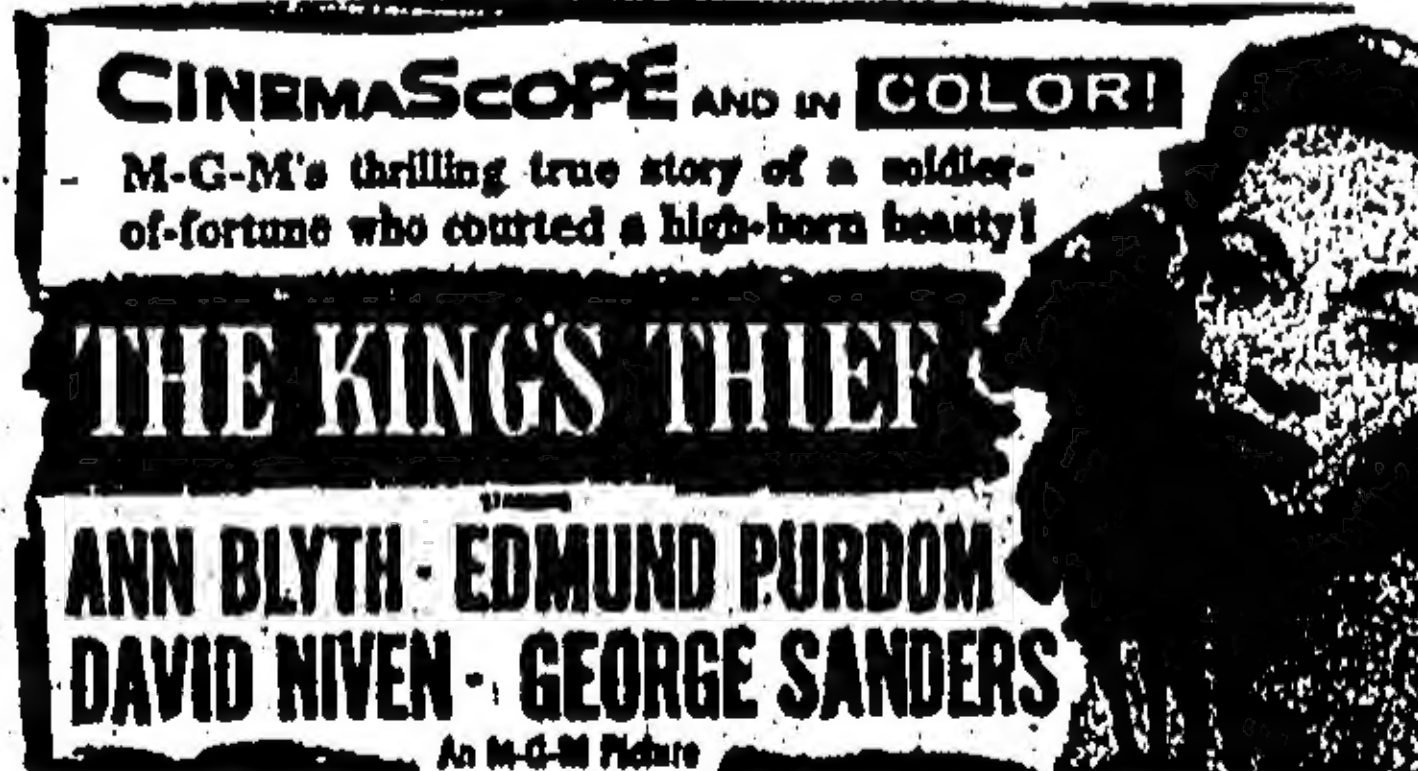


CLARK GABLE JANE RUSSELL ROBERT RYAN
with CAMERON MITCHELL CINEMASCOPE COLOR BY DELUXE

HOOVER LIBERTY

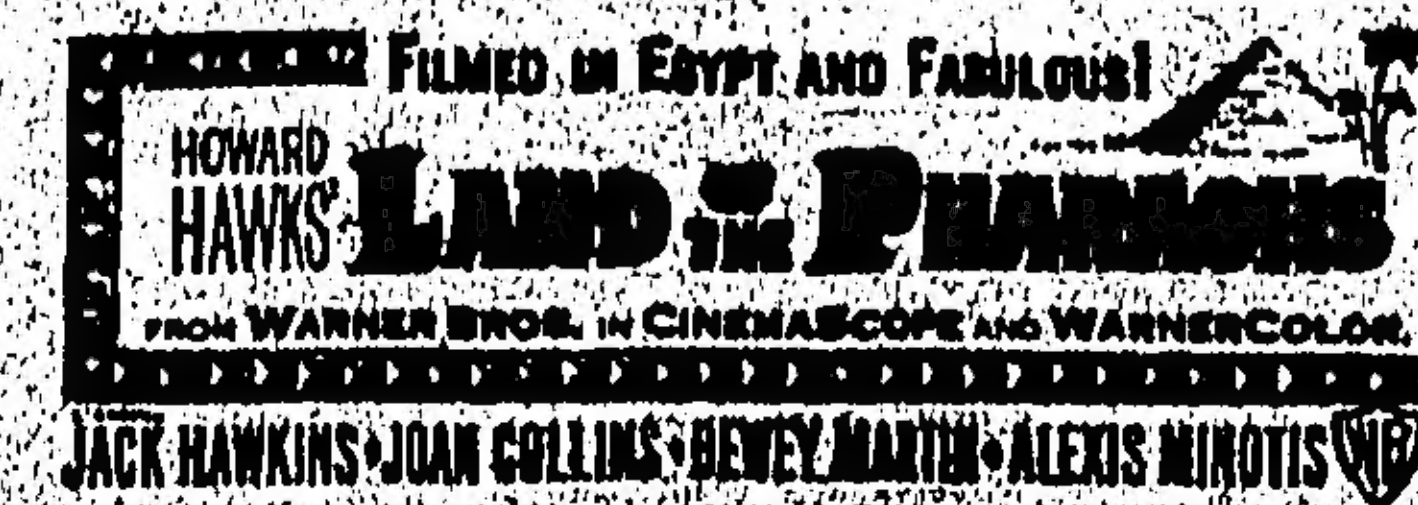
CAUSEWAY BAY TEL. 72371 KOWLOON TEL. 80148, 80248

— NOW PLAYING —
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



Also Newest in CinemaScope
M-G-M COLOR CARTOONS
Coming Big Picture "LOVE ME OR LEAVE ME"

ORIENTAL
SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
4-Track Directional Stereophonic Sound—Wide Screen!



UNITED EUROPE PROJECT

Spanish Pretender Takes Oath Of Allegiance



Prince Juan Carlos, pretender to the throne of Spain, kneels the colours after taking the oath of allegiance during the passing-out ceremony at the military school at Zaragoza, Spain.—Express Photo.

UK PRESS COUNCIL DEFENDS PAPERS' RIGHTS

London, Dec. 29.

Britain's Press Council, an organisation which acts as a "watchdog" on the ethics and good taste of British newspapers, today defended their right to print "the lustier and more violent aspects of life."

In its second annual report the Council said the press was often "sharply and ignorantly assailed" in speeches and radio or television features.

"The detractors may be honest in deploring, say, the moral tone of reports of crime and sex and sport with a gambling element. Like many old-fashioned puritans, they would like the lustier and more violent aspects of life to be hidden from the general view," it said.

The Council, a voluntary body made up of newspaper proprietors, editors and journalist union representatives, examines complaints against newspapers made to it.

No Discipline

It has no disciplinary powers but gives wide publicity to its views on the complaints.

The report drew attention to what it called "the objectionable exploitation of public interest in the Royal Family by certain representatives and periodicals."

The Council, it said, would like to see instituted certain standards of behaviour which would in time become a part of every British journalist's professional equipment.

The code of conduct which it sought might also cover "the unwholesome exploitation of sex in some newspapers."

The report quoted a recent leading article in The Times newspaper which said: "The race for marmalade circulations has led in some cases to a disgraceful lowering of values. The basic instincts are being pandered to not only in insouciance but in social attitude and in conduct as well."

The Council commented that there was much truth in these strictures but added: "It is easy to go on to condemn the popular press root and branch, and to find little or no good to be said for it. But that would be a mistake."

The fault should not blind critics to the very real virtues and value of the popular press.

"They take up causes and run campaigns which would naturally not see the light of day in the staid section of the press because that is not its purpose. They are invariably on the side of patriotism and legality, of courage and chivalry."

The Council rejected a proposal that it should be armed with disciplinary powers analogous to those possessed by the law, society and the British Medical Association.

Officials Attacked

It also attacked officials who think that by sending out documents marked "Private and Confidential" they can prevent information being published.

"It is not for the editor to suppress what the public ought to know simply because an official or public authority finds it far more convenient if the press keeps quiet about it," the Council commented.—China Mail Special.

Party Leaders Want France To Take Initiative

Paris, Dec. 28.

The Popular Republican Party (MRP), led by M. Georges Bidault and M. Robert Schuman, called today for France to take the lead in getting the united Europe project rolling again.

Ex-Premier Pierre Mendes-France's opposition "Republican Front" already is supporting an atomic energy pool and common market for all of Europe.

It was one more issue indicating that once the January 2 elections are over the French middle-road parties—now bitterly divided among themselves—may co-operate against the extremes of right and left.

The MRP Executive Committee today adopted a resolution urging "all Republican parties, whether they class themselves in the Opposition or the majority," to draw up a common agenda for action.

Atomic Energy

The resolution said: "France must take the initiative in diplomatic negotiation to decide on the realisation of a European community for the production and peaceful use of atomic energy and the step-by-step establishment of a common market."

The MRP resolution followed hard on a declaration of M. Mendes-France's chief ally, the Socialist leader Guy Mollet, that he and M. Mendes-France were in "agreement" in supporting a European atomic and trade community.

With the elections still to come, M. Mollet and M. Mendes-France on the one hand and Premier Edgar Faure, Foreign Secretary Antoine Pinay and ex-Premier Bidault on the other already were slowing down their attacks on each other.—United Press.

US Soldiers Assist Jap's Education

New York, Dec. 28.

Nobuo Mii, a Japanese engineering student, has been helped to continue his studies at Columbia University here through the generosity of two American Air Force sergeants, the University news office reported today.

He met the soldiers, Sergeant Clifford W. Shocklin and Technical Sergeant John E. Hagan, at gatherings of the Japanese Amateur Radio League.

Through these meetings a warm friendship developed and the American sergeants, although each of them supports a family on the pay of a non-commissioned officer, decided to sponsor Nobuo's further technical education in the United States.

He graduated from Kyushu University in March 1955 with a bachelor of engineering degree. So far each sergeant has contributed about \$1,000 toward the Japanese youth's education at Columbia.

Perfect English

In order to perfect his knowledge of English Nobuo has enrolled at Columbia Language Centre. After one semester at the language centre, a division of Columbia's School of General Studies, Nobuo expects to enter the School of Engineering at the University where he will work for his master of science degree. He hopes to specialise in electronics.

In a letter to his professor Sergeant Hagan, who is now stationed at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, wrote: "We are lucky to be able to sponsor a bright young man like Nobuo. I am sure he will go far in electronics back in Japan and if he does and can take back part of America with him—as he has enabled me to better understand his native land—that is all the repayment we want."—China Mail Special.

PRESIDENT ARRIVES AT KEY WEST

Key West, Dec. 28.

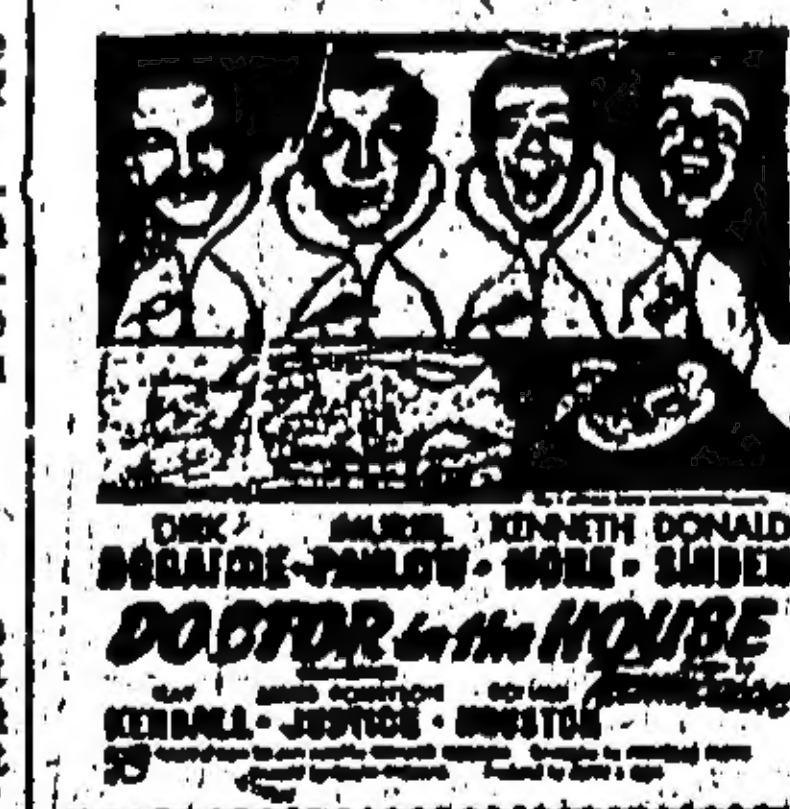
President Eisenhower arrived here in his personal aircraft to spend a fortnight's holiday in the sun.

Brilliant sunshine greeted the President who is recovering from the heart attack he suffered on September 24. Last night Key West City Council hastily renamed North Beach Road as Eisenhower Drive. It intersects with Roosevelt Boulevard and Truman Avenue named after Democratic presidential victors.

Mr. Eisenhower is to occupy the same quarters at Key West naval base as he used as Army Chief of Staff in 1948 while recuperating from an illness.—Reuter.

CAPITOL RITZ

TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



NEXT CHANGE
"STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND"
In VistaVision

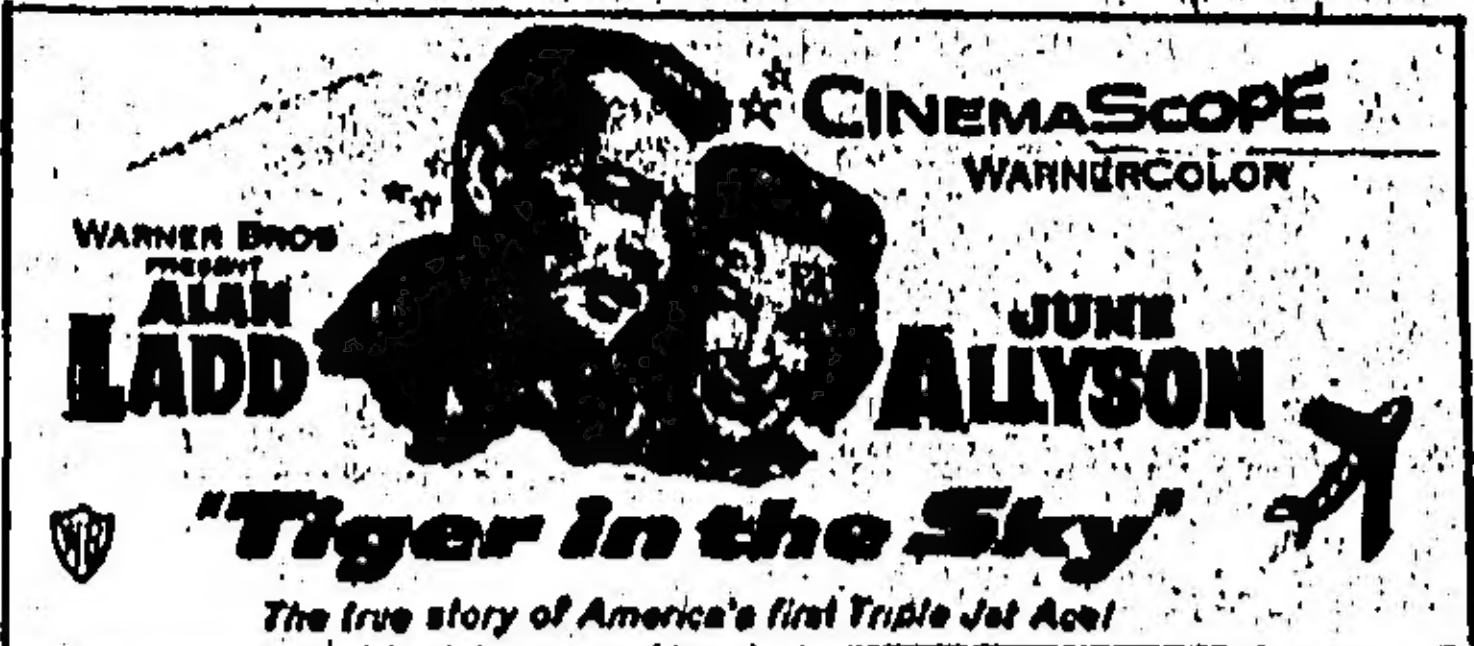
SHOWING TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



NEXT CHANGE
JAMES STEWART & JUNE ALLYSON
"STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND"

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

SHOWING TO-DAY



OPENS SATURDAY



NEW YORK GREAT WORLD

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★ LAST TWO DAYS ★
AT 2.30, 5.30 (NEW YORK AT 5.15 P.M.)
7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



NEW YORK Added Attraction At 2.30, 5.15 & 9.30 p.m.
"THE RIVAL WORLD" in Eastmancolor
First Prize Winner at Venice Film Festival 1955.
COMMENCING SATURDAY 31st DECEMBER



See the Glamour Opera!

LEE

Presents
"ROMANCE OF WESTERN CHAMBER"
(記 廟 西)
(Cantonese Opera) To-night at 8.00 p.m.
Matinee "PEARL TOWER" To-day at 1.30 p.m.

BLUE HEAVEN (NIGHT CLUB) KING'S RESTAURANT

SPECIAL DINNER DANCE on
NEW YEAR'S EVE, NEW YEAR'S NIGHT
Free Gifts
PLEASE BOOK YOUR TABLE EARLY
TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

TINO & HIS BAND WITH
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MISS GRACE & MISS DIANA SHIH
King's Theatre Bldg., 1st Floor. Tel: 26968



★ US Representative Returns From Communist Countries ★

Little Likelihood Of War With Russia In 1956
He Says

Gregory Peck

NO COMMENT
ON ROMANCE

Hollywood, Dec. 28. Actor Gregory Peck, at home in bed with influenza, refused to confirm or deny today reports that he might marry Veronique Passani, 22-year-old French journalist, over the New Year weekend.

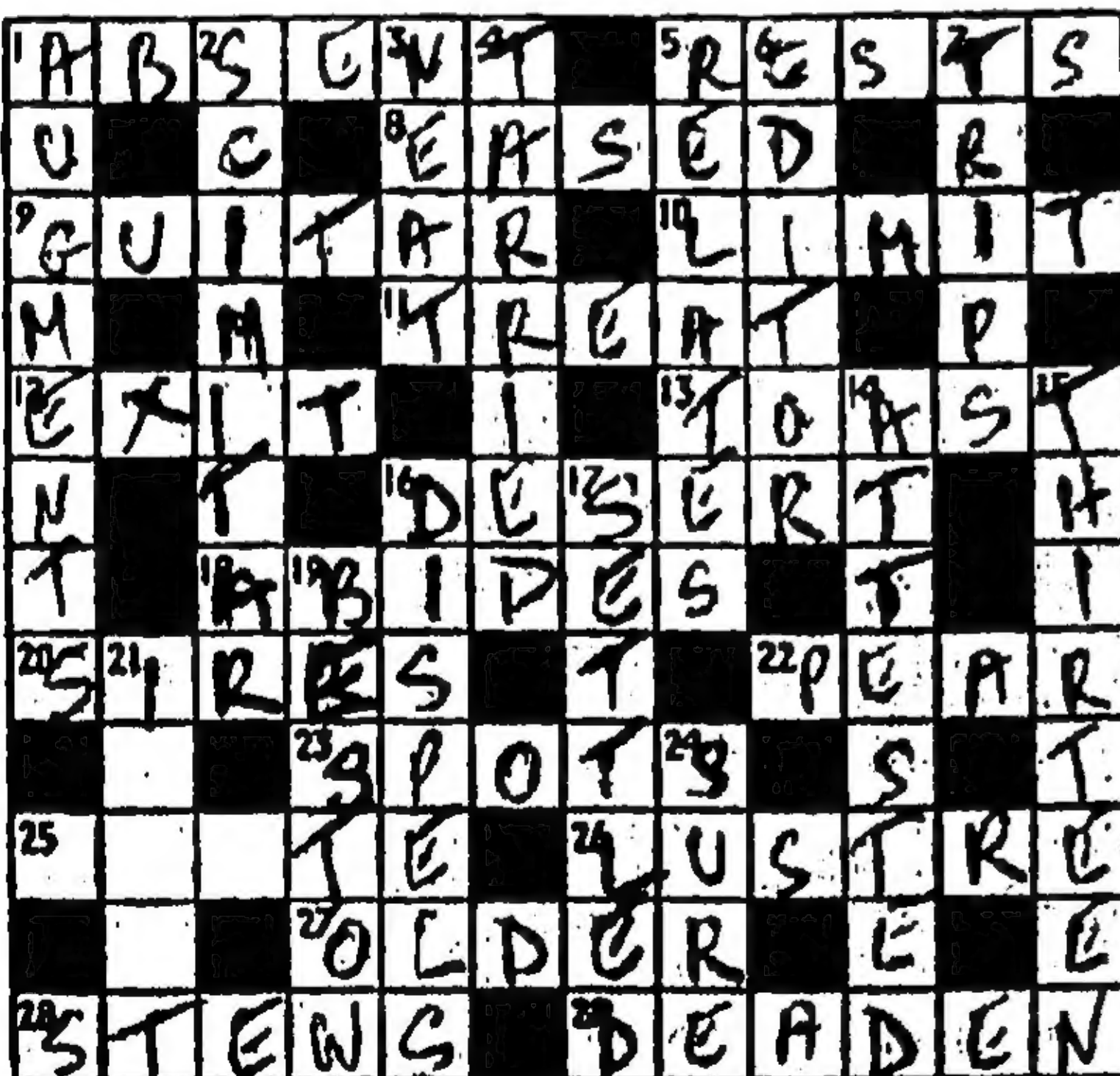
He and Miss Passani met in Paris in 1954 while he was making films and have been linked romantically since then. Peck's former wife, the former Grete Konecni, won an interlocutory divorce decree from him last December 21 after a two-year separation.—China Mail Special.

UK WEEKLY
WAGE BILL
INCREASES

London, Dec. 29. The weekly bill for 11,537,000 British industrial workers rose by 24,857,500 in the first 11 months of this year, it was announced here today.

In the same period of 1954 the weekly wage bill increased by £3,375,000, the Labour Ministry's monthly gazette said. Most of this year's increases went to iron and steel workers, followed by certain engineering and transport employees and people in the tobacco industry. Strikes during the same period cost the country 3,624,000 individual working days. Of these 1,087,000 concerned transport people and 1,099,000 miners. A total of 639,200 British workers were involved in strikes at some time or other during the year.—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS
1 Away (8).
6 Reposes (8).
8 Relieved (8).
9 Stringed instrument (6).
10 Boundary (5).
11 Entertain (5).
12 Way out (4).
13 Proposal of health (5).
16 Abandon (6).
18 Tolerates (6).
20 Forebear (5).
22 Fruit (4).
23 Spies (5).
25 Cream (5).
26 Shoon (5).
27 Not so young (8).
28 Simmors (5).
29 Retarder numb (5).

DOWN
1 Supplements (8).
2 Sword (8).
3 Tidy (4).
4 Waited (7).
5 Tells (7).
6 Press chief (6).
7 Stumbles (8).
14 Bore witness (8).
15 Number (8).
16 Scatters (7).
17 Instilled (7).
19 Grant (6).
21 Creek (5).
24 Certain (5).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1. Fried, 5. Sings, 8. Vent, 9. Raised, 11. Enter, 12. Spruce, 13. Gift, 16. Lease, 18. Abuse, 19. Sell, 20. Europe, 24. Exact, 25. Tie-up, 26. Evil, 27. Sated, 28. Enrich, 29. Power, 1. Fort, 3. Crisis, 4. Excess, 5. Dejected, 6. Stagnant, 7. Natural, 8. Worried, 10. Split, 15. Makers, 14. Gullies, 16. Yearned, 17. Mope, 19. Bored, 21. Aids, 24. Bury, 26. Sake.

BUT AMERICA MUST
MAINTAIN
HER SUPERIORITY

Washington, Dec. 28.

Representative Patrick Hillings, back from a trip through Russia and other Communist countries, said today: "There is little likelihood of war with Russia in 1956."

Mr Hillings, one of many Congressmen who visited Russia during the Congressional recess, told the Silver Spring (Maryland) Rotary Club that as long as the United States maintained superiority Russia "won't take a chance" on starting a war.

He said he was satisfied that this country had more and better planes, bases and nuclear weapons than the Soviets.

Mr Hillings predicted that the Chinese Communists would continue pressure on Formosa next year and would make a concerted effort to capture Indonesia and other Asiatic territory by internal subversion.

Despite Blusterings

But he said: "Despite the blustering statements of Bulganin and Khrushchev, the Russians don't want war at this time and are not prepared for it."

"They are having economic difficulties and the committee which is now running the Soviet Union needs more time to solidify its control."

Mr Hillings also listed West Germany as a potential danger

spot. He said the free world would be in serious trouble "if something should happen to German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer."

While West Germans were strongly anti-Communist, he said, they badly wanted peace and reunification and, without Dr Adenauer, might accept Communists in their government as part of a deal with Russia.—United Press.

DIPLOMAT'S
DAUGHTER
WEDS IN
VIENNA

Vienna, Dec. 28.

The wedding was celebrated here today of Michael Palmer, son of Paul Palmer, executive editor of the Readers Digest, and Claude Lamotte, daughter of Lady Wallinger and stepdaughter of Sir Geoffrey Wallinger, British Ambassador to Austria, and formerly of the British diplomatic service in China and Southeast Asia.

The ceremony took place in the chapel of the Hofburg, the former winter residence of the Imperial Family of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Chancellor Present

It was celebrated by the Papal Nuncio, Monsignor Dellepiane, in the presence of the Austrian Chancellor, Dr Julius Raab, Vice-Chancellor Adolf Schöner and Foreign Minister Leopold Figl.

The father and mother of the bridegroom had flown over from America to be present at the wedding, which was attended by leaders of the diplomatic corps and of Austrian political and social life.—Reuter.

Dionne Quin
Deeply
In Love

Toronto, Dec. 28.

ANNETTE, one of the four surviving Dionne quintuplets estranged from their family, is "deeply in love with a young man," it was reported today.

The Toronto Star said that the girls' "rebellion" reported by their father yesterday had been fomented for years. Jealousy among other members of the family was at the root of the trouble.

Mr Olive Dionne, the girls' father, said in North Bay of Ontario today his disclosure yesterday of a rift in the family was confirmed by their statement that they wanted to be by themselves.

Mr Dionne, who had claimed that the girls had not even seen their family a Christmas card, said he and his wife had still not received a card from them.

(In an interview in Montreal yesterday, Dionne, one of the four, denied that there was any rift and said the girls had been "very friendly" a week ago.)—China Mail Special.



Trumpeter Eddie Calvert—the golden trumpet—is accompanied by the Lenox Chimpanzee Band of the Bertram Mills Circus. The act performed before the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.—Reuterphoto.

Antarctic Expedition Ships
20 Miles From Their Base

Washington, Dec. 28.

THREE ships of the United States Antarctic expedition have penetrated the McMurdo Sound to within 20 miles of the site of the permanent American base on Antarctica, according to a radio report from the expedition today.

Towering Mountain

This report received by the Navy Department in Washington said the ships were moored in the shadow towering Mount Erebus waiting for a windshift to blow light bay ice from the Ross Sea ice shelf before proceeding to the permanent site.

The three ships—the vanguard of the seven-ship Antarctic expedition fleet—were the icebreaker Edisto, the fuel ship Nespelen and the cargo vessel Wyandot.

A Navy Department spokesman told Reuter:

"The three ships entered McMurdo Sound yesterday and are moored to bay ice. Our message from them described this bay ice as newly developed and flat but of sufficient thickness to impede navigation."

"The icebreaker could make way through it but a strong wind is needed to force it out of that locality so they can proceed to their permanent mooring."

Another icebreaker the Eastwind was expected to arrive soon in the same general area with a supply barge.

On Ross Island

Mount Erebus is on Ross Island on the western fringe of the Ross Sea not far from the continental mainland on which the United States permanent base is to be built in connection with the 1957-58 Geophysical Year will be situated.

Another satellite base will be constructed further south and a third base right on the South Pole.—Reuter.

French Envoys
Appointed To
Bonn & Moscow

Paris, Dec. 28.

The Journal Officiel (French official) today published decrees confirming the appointment of French ambassadors to Bonn and Moscow.

The French Ambassador in Bonn will be M. Louis Joxe, late Ambassador in Moscow, where he is replaced by M. Maurice Dejean, a former French Ambassador in Tokyo and latterly diplomatic adviser to the French Government.—Reuter.

Dogs With A
Guilt Complex

Johannesburg, Dec. 28.

Dogs with anxiety neurosis, guilt complex and other neurotic complaints are swelling the lists of patients treated by Johannesburg veterinary surgeon.

One veterinary surgeon said: "I have never come across so many unbalanced animals as in the past few years." He added that dogs pattern their behaviour largely on that of their owners.—China Mail Special.

Brazilian
Newspaper
ConfiscatedPress Association
Makes Protest

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 28.

The Brazilian Press Association tonight publicly protested against the confiscation from news stands of today's issue of the anti-government daily newspaper, Diario Do Noticias.

The reason given for the seizure was an editorial which alleged undue discrimination against Diario compared with other newspapers.

The Press Association's protest was addressed to General Antonio De Lima Camara, a former police chief now controlling the present state of siege in Brazil.

It said that Diario's opposition to government policy "does not constitute incitement to disruption of public order."

The state of siege was declared recently to thwart any attempt to prevent the President-elect of Brazil, Juscelino Kubitschek from taking office.—Reuter.

Brisbane, Dec. 28. Someone speared the goldfish in the ornamental pond at Anzac Square in the heart of Brisbane.

The city council is also concerned because cars drove over flooded parks leaving water skiers, bulldozer fuel tanks were found filled with ash, and visitors to the city's gardens persist in handing lighted cigarettes to the monkeys.—China Mail Special.

STORMY SCENES
EXPECTED
IN CONGRESS

Washington, Dec. 28.

Debates over aid to farmers at home and to allies overseas are expected to provide most of the excitement in the Congressional session opening next week.

Proposals for helping the farmers at the moment look like having greater success. Next year is an election year and control of both the Congress and the presidency will largely depend on whether the farmers vote Democratic or Republican in November.

Traditionally the election year session of Congress is a noisy one with members of both parties using it as an arena in which to win the applause and votes of folks back home.

Three factors govern the coming session: first the possibility that President Eisenhower will not run for re-election confronts Republican members of Congress with the prospect of having to win majorities on their own record alone.

Less Disposed

Secondly, the Democrats, who at present have a majority in Congress, will be less disposed than ever to rubber stamp administration legislation and will have plenty of vote-winning proposals of their own to put into law.

Thirdly, 1956 is the last year of the first Republican administration in a generation and certain problems can no longer be postponed.

The administration have been keeping down requests for foreign aid appropriations by using up already appropriated funds.

This is a procedure that cannot go on forever particularly as new Soviet cold war strategy appears to be imposing an "aid race" on top of the current arms race.

The administration has therefore been obliged to ask Con-

gress for a sharp increase in foreign aid appropriations to keep this form of expenditure at its present level and at the same time replenish the heavily depleted pipeline for future years.

This is the assumption outlined by the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, recently that foreign aid expenditures instead of tapering off as allies become militarily stronger.

But there is still strong opposition to a "never ending" drain on United States resources and an alliance between isolationist-minded Republicans and economy-minded southern Democrats could create serious trouble for the foreign aid appropriations.

Angry Farmers

The basic objective of both the Republican President and the Democratic Congress will be to prove to the voters that they have kept foreign aid down to an absolute minimum and have brought aid to the farmers up to an absolute maximum.

Farmers, angry over declining farm prices and rising costs of production, feel that they have not had a fair share of the record-breaking prosperity enjoyed by other sections of the community.—China Mail Special.

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"Well, I'll give you one good reason why it's not a good place—in ten minutes we're going to open these doors and let out another thirty thousand of 'em anxious to mingle with the festive crowd." London Express Service

DON IDDON'S DIARY

New York, Tuesday
THE U.S., as usual, is giving the world's most expensive Christmas present, a little package of \$5,000,000,000.

The sum may be whittled down a little by Congress, but that is the gift that President Eisenhower and his Administration want to send to the rest of the free world.

Europeans may say: "Well, the Americans can afford it." This is true. But we should never forget that every million is made up of the dollars and dimes of the ordinary U.S. citizen.

The money comes from the taxpayer and no one else.

This week the U.S. scales an even busier pinnacle of prosperity, and some economists are saying: "There will never be any more depressions—impossible."

Immense wealth

BECAUSE of the immense wealth of the country, the latest five-billion-dollar Christmas pre-

From America To The Free World Comes The MOST EXPENSIVE CHRISTMAS GIFT

sent is not being condemned as too expensive except by a few politicians. (The American billion is a thousand million, unlike the British billion, which is a million million.)

Americans are the most generous people in the world, and they intend to stay that way.

However, I am sorry to see that many Americans still labour under the illusion that Britain not only pays her debts, but does not pay her debts.

The old report has been revived that says that England owes the U.S. \$7,783,000,000 on the debt from the First World War.

The chestnut

ALMOST every year about this time the antique chestnut is produced. Here, once and for all are the figures, for which I am indebted to Sir Derwent Hall Caine.

Britain, during the First World War, lent to her allies \$7,800,000,000 and received back only \$340,000,000. The U.S. lent other allied countries \$5,773,000,000 at 4½ percent, and received back only \$679,000,000. While Britain repaid 43 percent of all the war loans made by the U.S. in the First World War, she paid back 75 percent of all the payments received by the U.S. from all her allies.

The figure of \$7,783,000,000 is very largely the result of accumulated interest at 4½ percent.

Britain's loan of \$7,800,000,000 to her allies was largely made at no interest at all. Figures are supposed to be dull, but there are not certainly not to an Englishman.

I think it is a pity after all the money that we have expended over the years on our information services and our diplomatic and consular services here that we have not been able to get this record straight in American minds.

Britain and the United States have a magnificent case, but they are losing it by default. They do not know how to present their case. So despite the latest \$5,000,000,000 gift, and the fact that the U.S. is spending \$100 for every \$1 Russia spends, and \$10 for every \$1 the Russians promise, it is the Soviets who are presently winning the psychological war.

Perhaps when President Eisenhower recovers his full strength the West will do better. More and more people are coming to believe that Mr. Eisenhower will run again, and the President is doing nothing to change their minds.

Every journalist, however, believes that the President must hold a Press conference soon. Mr. Eisenhower has not been questioned now for four months.

Free spending

THERE has never been a Christmas like this. It was a millionaire's Christmas with almost everyone spending as freely as a millionaire.

I saw in several stores on Fifth Avenue Christmas trees lavishly decorated with rhin-

stones and hung with presents very largely the result of accumulated interest at 4½ percent.

Cartier, Tiffanys, and Gorham, were invaded for days by people who in the past have only gazed at the windows. Jewellers say: "Couples are buying necklaces, bracelets, and rings costing over \$10,000. A few years ago they wouldn't have even dreamt of them."

Cadillacs have become commonplace and the new Lincoln Continental, which is \$10,000, and is America's most expensive car, is in such demand that the Ford Company is considering increasing production.

Two-hundred-and-fifty-dollar emerald bags in which to carry bottles of liquor are also on sale and, amazingly, are being bought. Toy suits of armour for boys, costing \$100 each, are selling at Schwarz in New York and in stores right across the country.

This was a diamond-dazzling Christmas. Tiffanys offer \$100,000 diamond rings, and total jewellery sales this year will be almost \$2,000,000,000.

Dazzling

RIGHT across the country the fabulous Christmas shopping grew and grew. Up 21 percent in Detroit from last year. Up 28 percent in Pittsburgh. Up 19 percent in San Francisco. Up 25 percent in Salt Lake City, and 15 percent in Memphis.

This was a \$6,000,000,000 American Christmas with people laying eight percent more money on the counter than they have ever done in history.

I have never known anything like it, and I have never seen New York so dazzling and resplendent.

DEADLY IS THE TENDER TRAP

THE MORE tender the trap, the deadlier it is.

The best traps are always gentle, concealed, indistinguishable to the male, though nearly every woman can detect a soft little whirr and click... the sound I have learned to recognise as the sound of a Tender Trap closing firmly on the prey.

Coming here soon is a film with a title which sums up the age-old feminine cunning in luring a snare for a man, and sums it up in three effective words: "The Tender Trap."

It starts early. "Come here, little boy, and kiss me," she will say almost as soon as she is old enough to form the words. And up he trots, trusting and flattered, not knowing that this is only the first and simplest of the traps she will set him all her life.

Never suspecting that a few minutes after she has issued the invitation she will probably change her mind with her bucket.

"I like you, little boy," she will say when she's roaring six years old. "Let's play mothers and fathers."

Astonished and delighted he falls into the trap again—as he will go on doing all his life.

It is among the wives in show business that you find the subtlest tender traps. They are the women whose husbands are paid to make love to the prettiest girls in the world.

Take, for example, the wife of a famous film director. He is an artist, a genius, a man who speaks as a connoisseur of the beauties with whom he works: Margaret Johnston, Joan Greenwood, Valerie Hobson.

INDISPENSABLE

I LOOKED at his wife—she was short and plain. And as I looked at her I listened. "You see, I am his critic. I am his only critic. I tell him when he is wrong, and he is furious with me."

And then... whirr... click. "You see, I am his critic. I am his only critic. I tell him when he is wrong, and he is furious with me."

And then... whirr... click. "You see, I am his critic. I am his only critic. I tell him when he is wrong, and he is furious with me."

And then... whirr... click. "You see, I am his critic. I am his only critic. I tell him when he is wrong, and he is furious with me."



THE RISE OF SELWYN LLOYD

By GEOFFREY WAKEFORD

shay Beliefs of the North—the hard-fisted ironmasters of the Industrial Revolution. Iron made money, money made bankers, and bankers made artists, writers, doctors, diplomats, and politicians. That, briefly, is the Lloyd story. Liverpool is Selwyn's career city, and Wirral, in Cheshire, his home county, sent him to Parliament in 1946.

Three careers

THE illusion to the eagle is based on what is known of the rapid, silent flight of "Lloyd the Law" in three careers.

The law is his profession. Mark his progress. At the age of 28 he was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn, and practised on the Northern Circuit. He took silk at 43, and was Recorder of Wigan a year later.

Then the Army. In 1939 he was a Territorial subaltern of 35 ("Lloyd the Tank"). By his 36th birthday after the fall of France, he was a major. Lieutenant-colonel at 38. Full colonel at 39. When the Second Army was formed for the Normandy invasion, Lloyd was promoted brigadier on Headquarters Staff.

Finally, politics. David Lloyd George was still a magic name at Westminster when Lloyd was at Magdalene, and at 22, president of the Cambridge Union. The dismemberment of the Liberal Party, the shattering of Lloyd George's revivalist dreams were only a few months away when Selwyn had himself adopted Liberal candidate for Macclesfield. He was 25. "Lloyd the Liberal."

Ramsay MacDonald's ill-fated Socialist Government was returned at this 1929 election. Anearin Bevan went to Parliament, Lloyd the Liberal did not. He came bottom of the poll.

There seemed no future for the Liberal Party. He joined the Tories.

The '30's formed his political character. But they bore no political fruit, though as a Hoylelake councillor he secured his base. People of the Wirral—that near-oblong promontory across which the Welsh and the English shake hands—sent him to Westminster in 1945 with a flustering majority. The rest of the country was busy going Socialist.

He was 41 and a back-bencher. Today he is 51 and Foreign Secretary. Minister of State in 1951 at the age of 47, the first back-bencher promoted by Churchill. Minister of Supply in 1954 at the age of 50. Minister of Defence in April 1955—still 50. Foreign Secretary in December 1955.

The base

THE base for this astonishing decade of destiny was secured in the six years of opposition, 1945-51. They were years enlivened by the group of young Tories who, in the back rooms of the Tory Central Office, worked under Mr. Butler to remesh Tory policy to the realities of the welfare State and the aspirations of a society which had endured two bloody wars and the rotting rancours of mass unemployment. Selwyn Lloyd was one of the team.

Even then, he foreshadowed the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, which as Defence Minister, he baptised a few weeks ago. In one Finance Bill debate, which he wound up for the Tories, he warned Sir Stafford Cripps that, while the Tories would preserve the social services and unimpaired defence, they would seek "great economies" in public administration.

This was the Butler plan. Selwyn Lloyd was a Butler man. In their secret labours they were joined by Anthony Nutting and Antony Head. The product was Britain Strong and Free, the general policy statement on which the Tories drove the Socialists from power in 1951.

Yet today all three are accepted as Eden men. Lloyd was close to Butler in opposition, but as Minister of State grew closer to Eden.

Safe man

HOW near, now, is Selwyn Lloyd to 10, Downing Street? He is a "safe" man. Safe men have often climbed to power. They are not necessarily popular men. But they are usually good organisers of independent mind.

There is nothing particularly modest about this dapper Sudeston Welshman. His dark eye, like the eagle's, takes you in its sweep, and then darts beyond you—upwards. In the Commons he has much to learn about the finesse of sipping in gracefully under criticism. He can be abrupt, even domineering, and he is liked more by men than by women.

But he is a personality. Upon him he carries the same stamp of superior aloofness as was shown by that other Old Fettesian, Viscount Simon, the just, and still is shown by two others of his generation at Fettes College now in Parliament—John Macleod and Ian Harvey.

An implacable gravity nevertheless saves him from a general charge of arrogance. This should help him with a populace which knows so little of him.

BURMA TAKES SECOND LOOK AT RUSSIAN AID

By JAMES WICKENDEN

THE first Asian country to see through the Russian aid promises and choose "Western" support may be Burma.

Russia has just offered U.N. a large-scale agricultural programme of soil experts and machinery to boost rice output. It followed months of negotiation and was well received.

To U.N. Burma's Buddhist premier and fervent reformer, the promise of prosperity seemed golden, and he accepted without consulting his cabinet. But the World Bank has stepped in. They already have a mission in Rangoon headed by Dr. Bosch, working cautiously to measure Burma's needs and qualifications for aid.

A blueprint plan foresees a renewed rail system, a dredged and concrete-built port for Rangoon, and modern rice cultivation.

But such is ediment on one point—there must be no Russian aid or the Bank will withdraw. This is no spite against the Bulgarians-Khrushchev clause, but a basic principle of World Bank projects (they started down as early as 1946) and modern interior quality goods.

Smart as Peron was, he failed to see through the 1955 agreement under which Russia undertook to provide \$30,000,000 of credit for Argentina to buy capital equipment. This was the bait for a clause on a "balanced" trade between the two countries of \$150,000,000.

Argentina sweetened to ship her side of the "bargain," completing 97 percent of the deal by August last year.

But Russia had sent only one quarter of the crude oil Argentina badly needed. Coal, steel, iron and chemicals followed in tiny dribbles—some never arrived at all.

Finally, Argentina's regime showed the bait facts and totted up the total loss. It was officially estimated, early this year that Argentina was owed the staggering sum of \$42,800,000 by Russia for failure in deliveries or dispatch of goods as the modern interior quality goods.

EMPIRE

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LOUIS KENTNER

(pianist)

Tuesday & Thursday, 3rd & 5th January, 1956.

SOME OF THE THINGS SAID ABOUT KENTNER.

Louis Kentner has been compared by our leading critics with LISZT, BUSONI and RACHMANINOFF.

Among the many pianists of international fame who frequent our concert halls, LOUIS KENTNER IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE MOST OUTSTANDING — Bologna-Pomeriggio.

An artist of the highest rank — Paris-Opera.

From Mrs. Roosevelt's Column

(Letters from Europe to a group of American papers) — In the evening in Zurich we went to a symphony concert where I enjoyed one of the finest pianists I have ever heard.

KENTNER'S brilliant recitals. "Cheered by the audience" — S. C. M. Post, 25th April, 1953.

KENTNER captivates. "Before almost capacity audiences this inspired virtuoso delighted, thrilled, amazed and captivated" — H.K. Tiger Standard — 25th April, 1953.

KENTNER, the entrancer. "So thunderous was the applause at the end of his recitals that even the tawny Mexican maid, cavedropping from the grey mural of the Empire Theatre ceiling, seemed to shake" — China Mail, 27th April, 1953.

After the performance the audience stood electrified as it by magic — Kung Sheung Yat Po.

Thunderous applause lasted for some time after the recital — Wah Kiu Yat Po.

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Booking at MOUTRIE'S and the THEATRE.

Please be in your seats by 8.30 p.m.

GORDON PIRIE ATTACKS THE PRESS

London, Dec. 28.

Gordon Pirie, British distance runner, tonight made an unexpected attack on the press after receiving two awards at a reception here naming him as Britain's Number One Sportsman of the year.

Pirie was elected "Sportsman of the Year" in a national ballot organised by the sports weekly, Sporting Record.

Television viewers of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) also picked him as the year's top sports personality. After being presented with the Sporting Record Trophy, Pirie launched into an attack on the press and its British headquarters, Fleet Street.

He mentioned the Newspaper Sports Writers' Association, who named John Dingley, the international steeplechaser, as the Sportsman of the Year and said the sports writers had omitted Don Cockrell, the British Heavy-

weight Boxing Champion, and he (Pirie) from their list of leading sportsmen.

IMMEASURABLE DAMAGE
Pirie said "Fleet Street has done immeasurable damage to British sport and a few unkind words will inflict more damage than they realise. I hope they will be kinder in future."

(The first six placings in the sports writers' list when they named their leading sportsmen last October were John Dingley, Peter May (England cricket captain), Cliff Morgan (Welsh rugby Union international), Brian Hewson (athletics), Stanley Matthews (soccer international), Norman Shiels (cyclist) and Stirling Moss (racing motorist).

(Shiels and Moss were joint sixth).

In today's Sporting Record, the top six were Gordon Pirie, Chris Chataway, John Dingley (all athletes), Billy Wright (England soccer captain), Brian Hewson and Stirling Moss.—(Reuter).

MCC In Drawn Match Against Karachi CA

Karachi, Dec. 28.
An opening partnership of 104 by left-handers Peter Richardson and Brian Close was an encouraging feature of MCC's second innings batting in the drawn match against a strong Karachi Cricket Association side today.

Close (86) batted more soundly than Richardson (60), who gave two chances but both kept the score moving at almost a run a minute, they snatched quick singles and punished anything short of a length.

The match, the first of the tour, petered out into a late draw. MCC, declaring at 156 for three, left Karachi to get 276 in three hours 40 minutes for victory.

They scored 182 for four, test player Alimuddin, making 68. Final scores: MCC 323 for five declared, and 156 for three declared.

Karachi 204 and 182 for four. Alimuddin survived, two chances in a stay of 80 minutes. He hit eight fours and was glancing to open out when he was well held by Parks to give Timmus his only wicket of the innings.

Peter Sainsbury, Hampshire's 21-year-old left-arm slow bowler, toiled throughout the innings for the five figures of 20.3, 9, 24, 3. He had Riaz Mohammad leg-before to the last ball of the match.

Sainsbury and Timmus (breakers) bore the brunt of the attack and were too accurate to enable the batsmen to attempt to force a win.

The second match of the tour against the Governor General's eleven begins here on Friday.—(Reuter).

Sheffield Shield Cricket

Queensland Share Honours With South Australia

Adelaide, Dec. 28.
Queensland drew their Sheffield Shield cricket match against South Australia here today after being forced to follow on 165 runs behind.

Replying to South Australia's first innings total of 470 for seven declared, Queensland made 311 and 113 for three at the close.

Fast bowler John Drennan, challenging for a place in the Australian side to tour England next summer, took six for 82 in Queensland's first innings and finished with match figures of seven for 95.

He is now considered a certainty for the Australian Test trial at Sydney next month.

Summarised scores—South Australia 470 for seven declared (C. Pinch 131 not out, G. Langley 87). Queensland 311 (W. Groot 72, P. Burge 55, R. Archer 51, Drennan six for 82) and 113 for three (Mackay 61 not out).—(Reuter).

World Flyweight Title Fight

Buenos Aires, Dec. 28.
A contract will be signed today for a World Flyweight title fight on January 7 between Champion Pascual Perez of Argentina and challenger Leo Espinoza of the Philippines.

The match was previously postponed because of injuries Perez suffered in his fight with another Filipino, Danny Kidd. The title bout will be held at Luna Park Stadium.—(United Press).



EDITED BY SAM LEITCH & TERENCE ELLIOTT

Trace the plunge in Swansea's fortunes to the injury of stalwart centre-half Tom Kiley. Only one point has been won from the last ten. Swansea paid out around £1,300 for Tom Brown who was playing with Llanelli although on Doncaster's books. But centre-half Tom, at the moment, is not speeded up to Swansea standard.

Here's a tip for Ronnie Burgess. He will be sympathetically received by Cardiff City for their reserve centre-half John Frowen. For around £5,000 they could boost their promotion hopes again.

Soccer officials from Malta arrived in London recently looking for a club to tour the George Cross island. But they stressed it must be a goal-scoring League side.

In stepped Leyton Orient with 27 goals in five matches to clinch the tour. So it's Malta in the summer for a four-match tour, three games against local sides and one versus a touring Italian team.

CUP CLASH

England "B" left-back Jim Langley was changing after

last week's Cup clash with Norwich when a fan handed him a brown paper parcel and said, "Here's another thousand, Jim."

Smiled Langley: "That brings my collection to 35,000. I have been collecting them since I was five. It's my only hobby."

What were they? Cigarette cards! Scottish League Champions Aberdeen did not forget the man who steered them to victory last season. Dave Halliday, now such a success with Leicester City, made the 420-mile journey to Aberdeen for the club's celebration dinner the other day.

BLACKPOOL STAR

New player-manager of Tranmere Rovers, who failed in their bid for Harry Johnston, Black-

AT LAST—BRITAIN HAS A FLEDGLING DEMPSEY

Says ALAN HOBY

Is Britain incapable of breeding a boxer with the punch, nerve, and mental viciousness to win the greatest prize in sport—the Heavyweight Championship of the world?

Dear old Bob Fitzsimmons in the moustache cup age of 1897 was the last Britisher to sit on the throne now occupied by Rocky Marciano. It is a shaming story.

In 58 years, 13 Americans, one Australian, one German and one Italian have held the title with not a solitary Englishman, Welshman, or Scot among the lot.

"Bombardier" Billy Wells, Joe Beckett, Phil Scott, Tommy Farr, Bruce Woodcock, Don Cockrell—they all failed. Every one wound up either horizontal, or helpless, or battered and beaten.

But the scene has changed. NEVER in the whole history of boxing has the Heavyweight outlook been brighter.

In the past month I have seen not one, but FOUR young Heavyweight "hopes" capable of treading the pain-racked road to the top.

MUSKETEERS

Even more encouraging, three of this quartet of muscular Musketeers pack a knock-out punch. The fourth is the smartest man seen over here since Tommy Farr's day.

The formidable four are: Dick Richardson, 21, from Newport. Fourteen months ago Richardson, scowling and tousle-haired, was a big, bumbling novice.

Today, out of 18 bouts, he has won 15—14 inside the distance. Brian London, 20, powerful, hard-hitting son of the ex-British Heavyweight Champion, Jack London.

Undefeated, young London last week registered his 9th professional win out of 10 when he stopped burly Basil Kew in two rounds.

Henry Cooper, 21, blond, handsome Heavyweight from Bellshill, another K.O. specialist, Cooper was recently beaten on points by Joe Erskine in a title eliminator and is currently nursing a damaged hand.

Joe Erskine, 21, from the tough Tiger Bay district of Cardiff. Dark, dedicated and immensely strong, the untitled Erskine is unbeaten in 28 professional contests.

Now I'm going to stick my chin out. As I see it, the biggest "natural" of the four is the husky Richardson.

I believe Erskine, with his wearing-down tactics, will be British Heavyweight champion within 12 months.

Yet somehow, for all his skill and stamina, I can't see the patient Joe plodding on to win the world title.

PERFECT BUILD

Richardson, on the other hand, is a fledgling Dempsey. Not only has he the perfect build for a Heavyweight—he stands 6ft. 2ins. and weighs 16st.—but unlike Erskine, he can beat them out with either hand.

Temperament? Richardson's manager, Wally Leslie, declares: "With very light his head gets smaller."

"He knows he still has a lot to learn and he listens to everything you tell him."

CUP SHOCK WINS ARE GOOD FOR FOOTBALL

Says STANLEY MATTHEWS

So the little clubs have done it again! Isn't it odd how every year we find some non-League club coming up from nowhere to hammer one of their big League brothers?

There have been suggestions that the Cup be restricted to League clubs only, but I think much of the drama would go with the departure of these non-League giant-killers.

Many are fighting for League recognition. They struggle year after year in the wilderness, and the Cup gives them their opportunity of self-advertisement, and remember, these clubs are training ground for many of our future League stars.

The feats of Boston, Bedford, Workson, and Burslem make good reading—they give bite to the competition. And don't get the idea that the big clubs look down on these games. They don't.

LITTLE FELLOWS

You cannot afford to treat any club lightly, especially in the Cup, where tension and atmosphere count for a lot.

I say good luck to the little fellows—only keep away from Blackpool.

A final word on Nat Lofthouse. I am glad to see the Bolton and England leader hitting the goals again. Here you have a grand club player who will pull him- self apart to get his team into winning brackets.

He ran into a lot of criticism recently—but that comes to us all. The old Lofthouse spirit seems unquenchable. Back he comes every time like a football jack-in-the-box.

You can't ignore him. He is a dangerous centre-forward when he hits form.—(London Express Service). (COPYRIGHT)

St. John Ambulance Orders

Orders by Mr. Fung Ping-tan, C.S.J., Commissioner of St. John Ambulance Brigade Hong-kong District. Order No. 52/55. Dated December 28, 1955.

Ambulance Duties—Hong-kong—1.1.56-1.1.56. Wanchai "B" Amb. Div. January 1956: Chung Sing Nsg. Div.
Ambulance Duties—Kowloon—2.1.56-3.1.56. KYMCA Amb. Div. 2.1.56-15.1.56. Hong Kong Amb. Div. January 1956: KYMCA Nsg. Div.

Penetration Squad Duties—1.1.56. New Year Holiday, cancel duty. 8.1.56. Dr. H.P. Yew, Dentist, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 667, 669, 671, 673, 675, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 691, 693, 695, 697, 699, 701, 703, 705, 707, 709, 711, 713, 715, 717, 719, 721, 723, 725, 727, 729, 731, 733, 735, 737, 739, 741, 743, 745, 747, 749, 751, 753, 755, 757, 759, 761, 763, 765, 767, 769, 771, 773, 775, 777, 779, 781, 783, 785, 787, 789, 791, 793, 795, 797, 799, 801, 803, 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MISCELLANEOUS

COCKTAIL PARTIES. Novel invita-
tion cards on sale "S. C. M. Post."
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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per
CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
SA "MONKAY"

are hereby notified that their cargo
will be discharged onto the Hong
Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown
Co., Ltd.'s godown where it will be
at consignees' risk and subject to
the terms and conditions of
storage, and where delivery may be
obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left
in the godown for examination by
consignees and the company's sur-
veyors. Messrs. Goddard & Douglas
at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 31st Decem-
ber, 1955.

No claims will be admitted after
the goods have left the godown and
all goods remaining undelivered after
the 1st January 1956 will be subject
to rent.

All claims against the vessel must
be presented to the undersigned on
or before the 14th January, 1956, in
writing and may not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected
CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
Hong Kong 28th December 1955

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

TIPENOR

Enclosed herewith is this vessel will
be succeeded by Messrs. Goddard &
Douglas at 10 a.m. on 10 a.m. on
December 30 and 31, 1955, and
consignees are requested to have
their representatives present during
the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
Agents

Hong Kong December 28 1955

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"LAOS" Feb. 28th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE
"MONKAY" Sailing Jan. 18th to N. Africa/Europe
"DONAI" Feb. 6th

BEACHCOMBER BARS HAVE DISAPPEARED Pacific Islanders Must Have Drinking Permits

Suva, Dec. 28.

The sordid little bar on a coral island, where beachcombers drink to forget after their remittances arrive, has vanished from many Pacific islands.

Travellers passing through Suva from all the islands which a succession of novelists have made famous, are unanimous in their report: "You have got to have a permit to get a drink now."

Tourist-conscious Fiji and some of the French possessions are the most liberal in their drinking laws, the travellers report, but on most of the other island groups red-tape measures to save islanders from unrestricted liquor have made life hard for the casual visitor.

But there are still no picturesque little bars in Suva. Hotels here follow the Australian and New Zealand pattern, where licensees must also provide accommodation.

Bitter Drink

To the clapping of hands, guests drink kava from coconut shells. The drink is numbing and bitter.

But, particularly on Fiji, mission influence is very strong and many natives observe the discouragement given by the Methodist Church to drinking. There is also a strong element which favours prohibition against the big Indian community here, who would oppose any plan to liberalise drinking. —China Mail Special.

New York, Dec. 28.

The next meeting of the United Nations Security Council on Syria's demand for sanctions against Israel is not likely to take place until the new year.

Informed sources said today that it was unlikely that the Council would be convened this week. —Reuter.



Tear Gas In Nicosia

Tear gas bombs exploding in Metaxas Square, Nicosia, the Cyprus capital, when demonstrators tried to turn the funeral of a shot terrorist into a political procession. —Central Press Photo.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

NEW YEAR ARRANGEMENTS

On Monday, January 2, 1956, the public counters at G.P.O. and C.P.O. Kowloon will open for public business from 9 a.m. to noon. The Sheung-wan Post Office will open from 9 a.m. to noon and Wan-chai from 10 a.m. to noon for sale of postage stamps only. All other branch offices will be closed.

The box lobbies at G.P.O. and C.P.O. Kowloon will open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sheung-wan from 9 a.m. to noon and Wan-chai from 10 a.m. to noon. There will be no general delivery commencing at 10 a.m. and one collection from all pillar boxes.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

By Air

Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 9 p.m.
Thailand, Burma, India, 9 p.m.
Japan, 3 p.m.
Korea, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

By Air

Formosa, Japan, Korea and Okinawa, 10 a.m.
Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., 1 p.m.
Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, 4 p.m.
Formosa, 6 p.m.
Korea, 6 p.m.
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
By Surface
China, People's Republic, 9:30 a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A., C. & S. America, 1 p.m.
Hawaii, 2 p.m.
Philippines, Indo-China, 4 p.m.
Australia, New Zealand, 4 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

By Air

Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Kuming, 6 a.m.
France, 10 a.m.
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Australia, New Zealand, & Ceylon, 11 a.m.
Indo-China, Noon.
Philippines, 1 p.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Japan, Okinawa, Korea, 6 p.m.
Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Formosa, 9 a.m.
China, People's Republic, 9:30 a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Indo-China, France, 4 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

Portuguese Will Be Able To Buy Own Flats

Lisbon, Dec. 28.

Many middle class Portuguese will have the opportunity of purchasing their own flats in large blocks of flats as a result of a decree recently published in the official gazette here.

Issued under the title "horizontal property," the new decree is aimed at solving the problem of obtaining adequate accommodation in the central areas of Lisbon, thus relieving some transport difficulties and preventing unnecessary building of self-contained houses on land more appropriate for agriculture purposes.

The practice in the past has been for those who could afford it to purchase a plot of land on the outskirts of cities and build a villa of independent design. This, however, has caused a great waste of land and created problems of transport to work. Moreover, only a minority could afford to purchase the land, which cost in some fashionable, though distant areas as much as over 600,000 escudos (over £7,000 sterling).

Government houses built for the working classes. But most of these are situated in the suburbs and are small and detached.

The expansion of Lisbon since World War II, thanks both to Government and private enterprise, has been remarkable.

Thousands of new houses, both built by the Government for the working classes and residential buildings incorporating flats built by private concerns, have been erected over a widespread area.

All this has caused a transport problem which is not yet solved.

Not Able To Cope

Until World War II, Lisbon was entirely dependent for collective transport, upon the tramway system, slightly augmented by a few bus companies operating in distant suburbs.

But today the tramway company has a large new fleet of British buses, both single and double decker, which are serving the new areas.

These are not, however, able to cope with the ever increasing need for transport and work is now in progress on an underground railway system.

The "horizontal property" decree provides for the purchase of flats not only in new buildings but also in existing buildings.

It is expected that, as a result of this decree, a considerable amount of old property will be demolished, and new flats built on the sites.

Demolition has, in fact, already been taking place—106 buildings were demolished in Lisbon between January and September 1955 alone. Although many new land areas are being developed for residential purposes, builders prefer to build on old sites in the central areas. This is partly because property in the central area is more valuable and partly because it is easier to build on foundations which already exist. As a result, there is hardly a street in Lisbon of reasonable length which has not already some new building being constructed.

A Disadvantage

Lisbon is thus fast becoming a multi-styled city, with buildings of various ages and old standing side by side with the most up-to-date, fashionable and modern architecture. There is, however, one disadvantage to demolition—tenants who are turned out for their homes to be pulled down, are usually paying low rent and they find it most difficult to obtain other accommodation at a similarly low rent. —China Mail Special.

REMANDED

Six men who pleaded not guilty through their counsel Mr M. G. Leung with attempts to export special articles without a licence, were remanded until January 18 by Mr F. X. D'Almada at Central today.

Defendants are Leo Sun, 30, motorcycle broker, 30, Naip, 30, fob of the Wan On Transportation Co., Chow Wai-lun, 30, garage fob, Leung Yung-lai, 38, fob of the Wan On Transportation Co., Tso Tung, 39, fob of the Wan On Transportation Co., and Leung Kai, 38, master of the junk No. M488T.

They were alleged to have attempted to export two Plymouth cars on Christmas Eve at Stanley, without a licence. Div. Det. Insp. A. Ashew is proceeding.

HAD CAT MEAT

"It was cat meat and not dog meat," exclaimed 44-year-old Cheung Woon Wai, who was charged with possession of dog meat before Mr Him-shing Lo at Central this morning.

Cheung was then fined \$100 or 30 days by Mr Lo after the charge had been amended to cat meat. Defendant was released on Wednesday evening, with the meat wrapped in some newspaper at Oliver Bazaar.

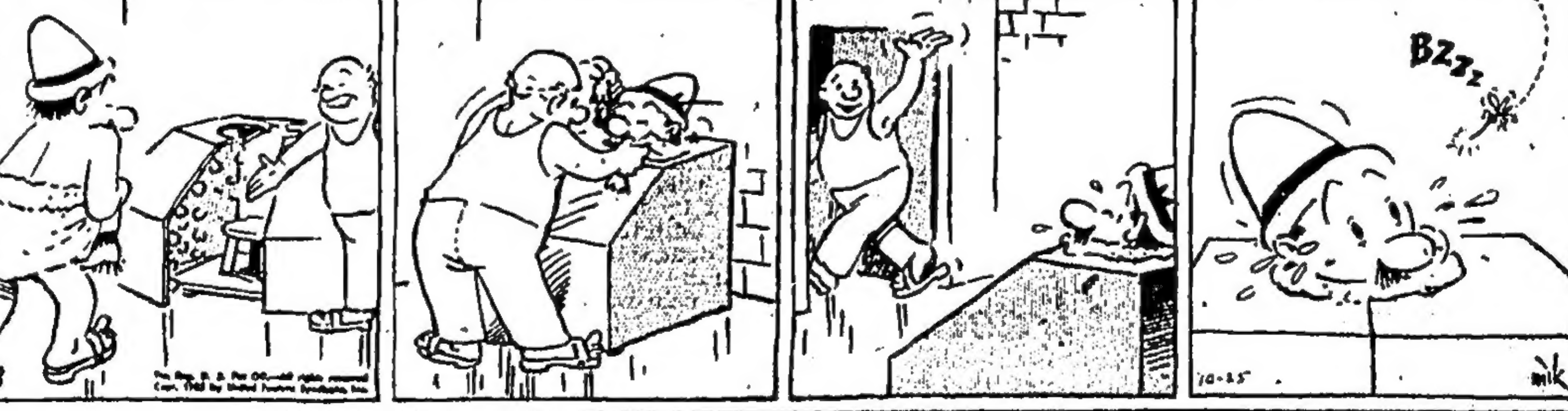
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND

By Milk



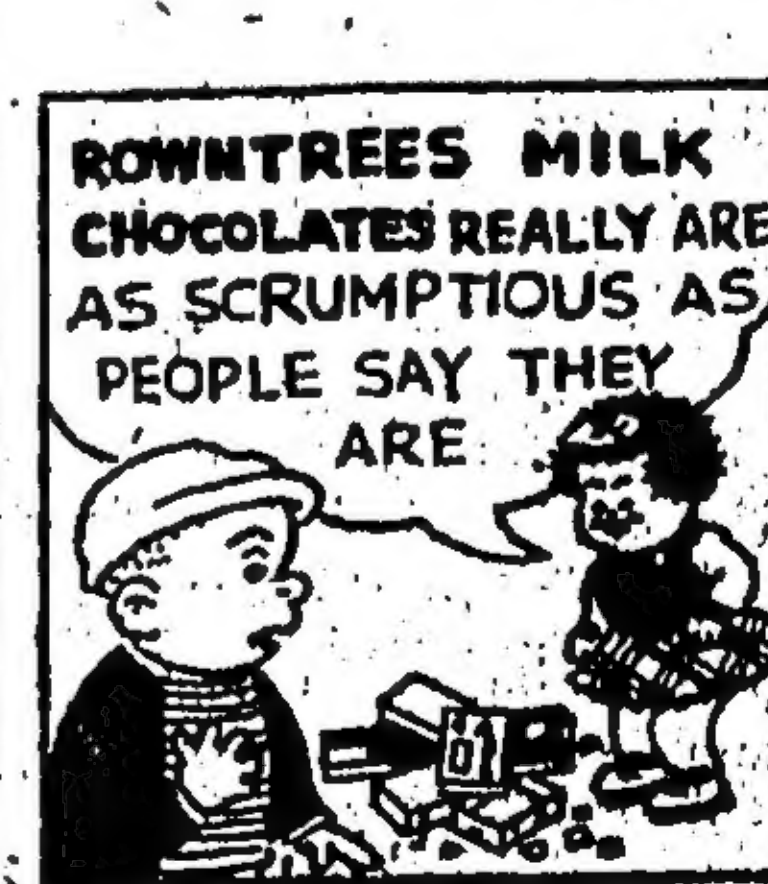
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By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



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SHEAFFERS
SKIP

MILITARY FUNERAL

The funeral of the late Lt. Cpl. N. Scott of B Troop, 56 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, took place with full military honours at the Protestant Cemetery at Happy Valley this morning.

Scott succumbed to injuries received on the afternoon of December 24 when the jeep he was travelling in overturned in the New Territories. He died on Christmas morning at the 33 General Hospital. He was 23.

The funeral procession, which consisted of a firing party, an escort party, the pallbearers and the gun carriage, proceeded from the R.H.K.D.F. Headquarters to the cemetery.

The chief mourner was Lt. Col. A. H. G. Dobson, Officer Commanding the 24 Field Regiment, RE.

The parents of the deceased are in the United Kingdom.

The Rev. D. P. Baxter and the Rev. S. G. Ogden, Chaplains to the Forces, officiated.

The firing party, after firing three volleys, presented arms while the bugler sounded the Last Post.

Wreaths were sent by Mother and Father; Lt. Col. and Mrs. A. H. G. Dobson; All Ranks of the 15 Field Squadron; B Troop, 56 Field Squadron, RE; the Officer Commanding and All Ranks of 56 Field Squadron, RE; All Ranks of 24 Field Squadron, RE; A and C Troop of 56 Field Squadron, RE.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

JIM WAITS FOR THE PHOENIX

THEY lived in a house in North London, Jim and his wife. They were both old-age pensioners, but they were both young in spirit, and Jim, at 76, insisted on working whenever he could in a job that is not one for weaklings—gardening.

The couple worked hard, and were happy, and then, one day last summer, tragedy hit them, and hit them hard. The house they occupied was burned down. Neither Jim nor his wife was physically injured, but their morale was dealt a savage blow by the fire. For they, who had cherished their independence so, now had nowhere else to go but to a home for old people in which the local council found them place.

POCKET MONEY

JIM and his wife were received with every sort of kindness at the home. But with the best will in the world, those who ran the place could not make it match up, in the eyes of Jim or his wife, to the home they had lost.

There was the question of money for one thing. Now, when they drew their pensions, the couple had to hand over the money to pay for their keep. That done, each was dealt out pocket money, in the way that children are. Each was given three half-crowns a week. Worse still, to Jim's mind, were the lessons that arose when he declared that he was of no mind to be idle.

"I'm a working man," he said. "I want to go on working." The authorities heard him out. Then they said: "There's nothing to stop your working, but you must hand over to us what you earn."

Jim started work again. But it went against the grain with him, this handing over of his money, and as he stooped over the flower beds of London gardens, he slowly worked out a plan for putting an end to the arrangement.

THE PLAN

ONE day he announced to the institution: "I'm leaving. The old lady'll stay here—just now, anyway—but I'll take care of myself, so's I can keep what I make."

Perhaps he had a plan for earning enough for himself and his wife one day to achieve independence again. Certainly, he spent every little money on himself, but worked for all the hours that he could and spent his nights in lodging-houses. But without his wife, he let himself go to pieces a little. He grew careless of things like washing, and became so grimy that the time came when lodging-houses would not take him in.

CAN HE GO BACK?

THEN, the other day, Jim, who had never in his life been in trouble for crime of any sort, turned thief. Perhaps it was another manifestation of his loneliness, but whatever it was he was caught stealing five boxes of cheese from a restaurant.

Jim was brought to Bow Street, a gaunt, slightly stooping, black-haired man, who pleaded guilty and the story was told to Sir Laurence Dunne, the chief magistrate.

"Can he go back to the home where his wife is?" Sir Laurence asked.

"Well, sir, he's got into a rather poor physical condition," said a policeman.

The chief magistrate nodded and turned to his probation officer. "You might find out if he can go back, will you?" he said, then to Jim, "I'm going to remand you, and let the doctors look at you."

Jim nodded, a bleak sort of gesture, without much hope in it, then he lumped out. Perhaps by Christmas he and his wife would be together again—in the home for the old.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. Time Signal and Programme Summary: 10.00, Signal. 10.05, For the Children. 10.15, The House at Pook Corner. By A. A. Milne. Edited by "Lilibab" 11.00, Day (SBCS); 11.05, Portuguese Half Hour (Studio); 11.10, Western Report; 11.15, Time News (London Relay); 11.20, Commentary (London Relay) or Special Announcement; 11.25, 11.30, 11.35, 11.40, 11.45, 11.50, 11.55, 12.00, 12.05, 12.10, 12.15, 12.20, 12.25, 12.30, 12.35, 12.40, 12.45, 12.50, 12.55, 1.00, 1.05, 1.10, 1.15, 1.20, 1.25, 1.30, 1.35, 1.40, 1.45, 1.50, 1.55, 2.00, 2.05, 2.10, 2.15, 2.20, 2.25, 2.30, 2.35, 2.40, 2.45, 2.50, 2.55, 3.00, 3.05, 3.10, 3.15, 3.20, 3.25, 3.30, 3.35, 3.40, 3.45, 3.50, 3.55, 4.00, 4.05, 4.10, 4.15, 4.20, 4.25, 4.30, 4.35, 4.40, 4.45, 4.50, 4.55, 5.00, 5.05, 5.10, 5.15, 5.20, 5.25, 5.30, 5.35, 5.40, 5.45, 5.50, 5.55, 6.00, 6.05, 6.10, 6.15, 6.20, 6.25, 6.30, 6.35, 6.40, 6.45, 6.50, 6.55, 7.00, 7.05, 7.10, 7.15, 7.20, 7.25, 7.30, 7.35, 7.40, 7.45, 7.50, 7.55, 8.00, 8.05, 8.10, 8.15, 8.20, 8.25, 8.30, 8.35, 8.40, 8.45, 8.50, 8.55, 9.00, 9.05, 9.10, 9.15, 9.20, 9.25, 9.30, 9.35, 9.40, 9.45, 9.50, 9.55, 10.00, 10.05, 10.10, 10.15, 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